

Update for 10 October 2012 Melksham Area Board

Update From: ..Melksham Community Area Partnership

Date of Area Board Meeting: 10 October 2012

Headlines/Key Issues:

Cross-Community Area Partnership working: Melksham CAP have been working with two other Community Area Partnerships in the area to identify community led, imaginative improvements to public transport, particular bus routes. There are potentially huge savings - £200,000 plus. Wiltshire Council are starting to cut bus services and the concern is whether they're cutting the right ones. Further cross-CAP activity began in September specifically covering the subject of arts and culture.

Community Engagement: Melksham CAP have a stand at the Melksham Food and Drink Festival on Sunday 16th September, and are undertaking an extensive community engagement event at Foundry Close in Melksham on 30th September in order to collect and collate resident's concerns and hopefully establish a community forum (or TARA) on an ongoing basis.

Community Action Plan: The Community Action Plan was updated and reissued at the end of July, and one of the most pleasing aspects of the revision was how many of the identified needs and activities have been completed in the past 6 to 8

months, including the promotion of cycling safety; the opening of two jubilee sports fields which guarantees their status for the future; the opening of a museum for Melksham; promoting the use of the Volunteer Centre, and assisting with the organisation of a Tidy Town day.

Waterways group: MCAP have now facilitated several meetings of a new Waterways Action Group for Melksham. Copies of plans of the proposed Melksham Link are to be placed on public display in a vacant shop window in Melksham as soon as they are available in order to stimulate public comment and feedback.

Projects:

Neighbourhood Plan: The Steering Group continue to be supportive of the concept of a federated neighbourhood plan. Instead of 10 or 11 villages all having their own, we should all get together and do one that covers the area as a whole. This would lead to economies of scale, work and cost. The Partnership would enable this to happen with the support of the board. We would then have a document which will be more influential.

Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA): MCAP intend to attend the JSA for Wiltshire engagement event on Friday 12th October 2012 to establish what's changing in Wiltshire, share information about the JSA programme with local key

stakeholders and establish how various agencies are planning to deal with the issues highlighted.

Future Events/Dates for the Diary:

NEXT MCAP STEERING GROUP MEETING: Melksham Town Hall, 7pm,
Thursday 18 October.

Signed:Phil McMullen

Dated:07 September 2012